

6th Regiment



The Duke of Connaught's Own Rifles

Montreal, B. C.,
1907.

752
Souvenir Edition

6th REGIMENT
The Duke of Connaught's Own Rifles

—PREFACE—

THIS Souvenir has been compiled with a view to preserving a record of the Regiment and its parent organizations. I have received much valuable assistance from Captains J. Reynolds Tile and W. Hart-McHarg, who secured the data and prepared the historical sketch.



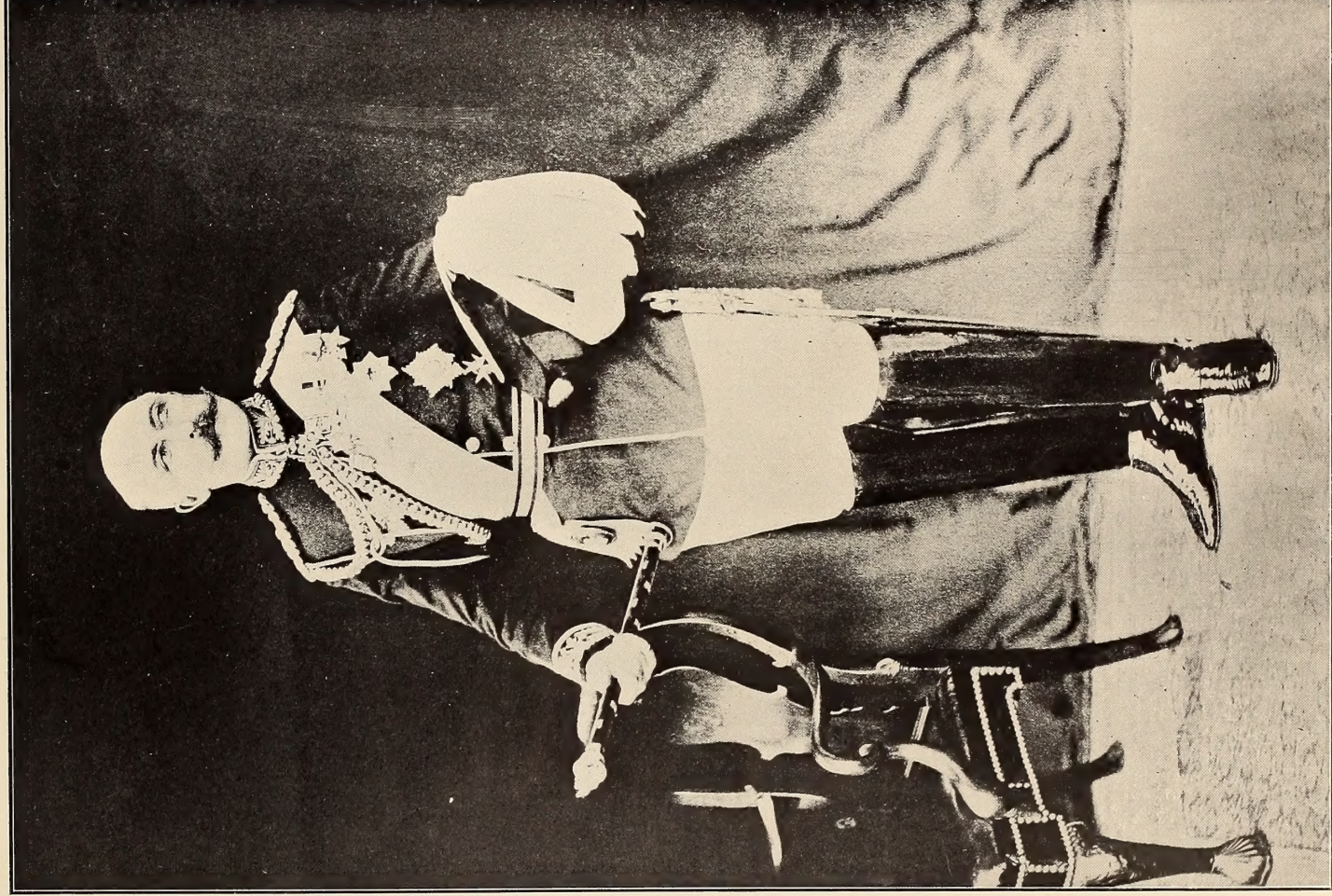
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FIELD-MARSHAL H. R. H. ARTHUR DUKE OF CONNAUGHT AND
STRATHEARN, K.G., K.T., K.P., ETC., HONORARY COLONEL



J. Whyte Lt. Col.

Commanding Officer

Historical Record

Although the 6th Regiment "The Duke of Connaught's Own Rifles" is in some respects a Military organization but recently brought into existence, in reality it can claim direct descent from the first local Military corps established in British Columbia in Crown Colony days.

The first Corps of Militia raised on the Mainland of British Columbia was the Seymour Artillery. The exact date is in doubt, as owing to the fire at New Westminster in 1898 all records were lost, and the early history of the Corps is a matter of memory. The Seymour Artillery, which was formed about 1859 at New Westminster as a Half Battery of Field Artillery, was armed with two 24-pounder Bronze Howitzers, which are now adorning the grounds at Queen's Park. The Corps was named after the Governor of the Colony, and among its officers were members of the Governor's staff and the late Sir Henry Crease.

From 1859-60 to 1878 the history of the Corps is lost. In 1878 a Crimean veteran, Capt. George Pittendrigh, then late of the Buffs, took command, with Lieut. W. Norman Bole as his subaltern. During Capt. Pittendrigh's tenure of command the old Seymour Artillery became No. 1 Battery of the newly formed British Columbia

Brigade of Garrison Artillery, No. 2 Battery being in Victoria. In 1884, on Capt. Pittendrigh's retirement, Capt. W. Norman Bole assumed command, which he held until his elevation to the Bench in 1889, when the command devolved upon Capt. Charles McNaughton.

The Battery was always maintained in a high state of efficiency, and was complimented on several occasions by inspecting officers, notably by His Excellency the Marquis of Lorne and General Laurie. The uniform was the same as worn by the Royal Artillery, including the Busby as head-dress.

In 1894 the British Columbia Brigade of Garrison Artillery was composed as follows: Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Companies were in Victoria, No. 4 Company at New Westminster, and authority was given to raise a Company in Vancouver to be known as No. 5. Major T. O. Townley, who, when he resided in New Westminster, had commanded No. 4 Company, was placed in command. The other officers were Lieutenants C. A. Worsnop, Lacey R. Johnson, F. W. Boulton, and C. Gardiner Johnson. Lieut.-Col. E. G. Prior, of Victoria, was in command of the Brigade. On January 17th, 1894, in the old theatre on Pender Street, near

Abbott, the oath of allegiance was administered to the men who had signed the roll, uniforms were issued and drill commenced the following day.

The first official inspection took place in the old Drill Hall on June 9th, 1894, the inspecting officer being Lieut.-Col. J. Peters, D. A. G. of the District, and in November No. 5 Company furnished a Guard of Honor to the Governor-General, Lord Stanley.

On May 24th of the following year, No. 5 Company took part in the Queen's Birthday celebrations in Victoria, and were complimented by Rear-Admiral Stephenson, Commander-in-Chief of the Forces. Lieut.-Col. Peters inspected the Company on October 19th, 1895, and in the same month a gun-shed was erected opposite the Drill Hall for gun drill. Authority was also received for the organization of another Company to be known as No. 6. Up to December, 1895, the weapon with which No. 5 was armed was the short Snider, but during that month these were called in and Martini-Henrys issued.

Early in January, 1896, the Artillery School commenced in Vancouver, a three months' course under the O. C. Royal Marine Artillery, Esquimalt. This was followed in the summer by another school at Esquimalt known as the "A" grade

course, which enabled the officers to qualify for promotion. The name of the Regiment was changed to the 5th Canadian Artillery, and was formed into two battalions. The Victoria Companies were made the 1st Battalion, and the Mainland Companies the 2nd Battalion. Lieut.-Col. T. O. Townley was placed in command of the latter. The other Vancouver officers were: Majors, C. A. Worsnop and Lacey R. Johnson; Adjutant, Lieut. C. C. Bennett; Surgeon-Major, A. M. Robertson; Quartermaster, Hon. Capt. J. F. Garden; Captains, F. W. Boulton and C. Gardiner Johnson; Lieutenants, J. Reynolds Tite, J. Duff Stuart, H. C. Akroyd, Forin and Burnett.

In February, 1897, Major C. A. Worsnop assumed command of the Battalion during Lieut.-Col. Townley's absence on leave, and Capt. C. C. Bennett took over No. 4 Company of New Westminster, being gazetted Major in March. Lieut.-Col. Peters, D. O. C., inspected the Companies in May, and in the same month the Vancouver Companies furnished a Guard of Honor to the Marquis Ito, who was *en route* to the Queen's Jubilee celebration as Envoy Extraordinary from Japan.

In June the 2nd Battalion proceeded to Victoria and took part in the Jubilee celebrations

on Macaulay Plains with the Royal Navy, Royal Marines, Esquimalt Garrison and the 1st Battalion 5th Regiment C. A., the largest number of troops ever brigaded in British Columbia.

On June 5th, 1897, Lieut.-Col. Prior was gazetted to be in command of the 5th Regiment, both battalions, and on the 19th of the same month Lieut.-Col. Townley was transferred to the Reserve of Officers with the rank of Major, and Major C. A. Worsnop gazetted Lieut.-Col. in command of the 2nd Battalion. In October Major Bennett took command of No. 6 Company in Vancouver, Lieut. DeWolf Smith taking No. 4 Company in New Westminster, and Lieut. J. Reynolds Tite was appointed Adjutant.

In the Spring of 1898 an Artillery School was held in New Westminster, which was attended by all the New Westminster and several Vancouver officers. This school was under the Royal Marine Artillery officers from Esquimalt, and was followed by the "A" grade course in the Esquimalt forts.

The annual inspection in April was followed by a parade on May 11th to meet the Yukon Field Force at the railway station, *en route* for the North.

A memorable event in this year was the visit to Seattle of both Battalions of the 5th Regiment on the 4th of July.

On the 23rd of July the Governor-General, Lord Aberdeen, was received by a Guard of Honor furnished by the 2nd Battalion.

From a gunner's point of view, the most important event of the year was the gun practice in the Forts at Esquimalt. One gun detachment from each Company went down, and, after one day's drill, manned and fired the 6-inch guns at a moving target, making sixty per cent. of direct hits and a ricochet.

Rifle shots will also remember 1898, as the Martini-Henry rifles were replaced on November 11th by the Lee-Enfields.

The 2nd Battalion Companies were renumbered in December; No. 4 of New Westminster becoming No. 1, and Nos. 5 and 6 of Vancouver Nos. 2 and 3 respectively, of the 2nd Battalion, 5th Regiment C. A.

On the 24th of May, 1899, Nanaimo was visited to assist in the local celebration of the Queen's birthday.

In June the old Valise equipment was called in and the Oliver equipment issued. In July a Militia Order authorized the change from Artillery to Rifles, and in spite of a very strong feeling against the proposed change it was carried out in December. In October Major-General Hutton, commanding the Canadian Militia, inspected the

2nd Battalion, and announced that he considered it necessary to have some infantry in British Columbia, and as the 1st Battalion had the opportunity of drilling on modern guns, it fell to the 2nd Battalion to change their uniforms and methods of training.

Regimental Order of December 23rd, 1899, gives the officers of the 6th Battalion Rifles, as it was then called, as follows:—

Lieut.-Col. C. A. Worsnop, in command; Major Lacey R. Johnson, second in command; Major J. C. Whyte, Junior Major; Major C. C. Bennett, Adjutant; Surgeon-Major A. M. Robertson, Surgeon. "A" Co. (New Westminster)—Capt. A. Henderson; Lieut. W. A. Johnson. "B" Co. (New Westminster)—Lieut. G. O. M. Dockrill; Lieut. J. R. Grant. "C" Co. (Vancouver)—Capt. F. W. Boulton. "D" Co. (Vancouver)—Capt. J. Reynolds Tite; Lieut. J. S. Tait. "E" Co. (Vancouver)—Capt. J. Duff Stuart; Lieut. J. Boyd. "F" Co. (Vancouver)—Lieut. H. C. Akroyd; Lieut. C. B. Worsnop.

It was during Major-General Hutton's visit that the first call came for volunteers for South Africa, and the selection resulted as follows:—

From "A" and "B" Companies, New Westminster—Corporals G. B. Corbould and W. A. Wallace, Privates A. S. Battson, C. T. Leamy,

J. Porter Smith, W. H. Brooking, A. Lohman, Otway Wilkie.

From Vancouver Companies—Sergt. John Moscrop, Lce.-Corpl. J. J. Sinclair, Privates Geo. Hutchings, Percy Greaves, R. McCalmont, H. M. Bonner, J. H. Livingston, Sidney Harrison, S. O'Brien, C. C. Thompson, Geo. Wallace, H. J. Allen, A. R. Mackie, A. J. Nye, N. E. Niebergall and W. Jackson.

At Paardeberg Private Jackson was killed and Privates Lohman, Thompson and Niebergall were wounded.

In January, 1900, Sergt. A. C. Bundy, who had just completed twelve years service in the R. M. R., joined the 6th Battalion as Sergeant-Major.

In April the Battalion was called upon to supply twenty men for six months' service in the 3rd Special Service Battalion R. C. R., and this draft went into garrison at Victoria a week later. Lieut. H. C. Akroyd also was appointed for duty with the Battalion.

In May the designation of the Corps was changed to the 6th Regiment "The Duke of Connaught's Own Rifles," His Royal Highness having accepted the Honorary Colonelcy and permitted the use of his name.

In July the Regiment was called out in aid

of the Civil Power to prevent anticipated riots in Steveston. The call came after 11 p. m. on July 23rd and the Regiment left by boat at 2 a. m. July 24th, remaining in Steveston until July 30th, and arriving in Vancouver in time to receive the new Governor-General of the Dominion, Lord Minto, at the railway station.

The annual mobilization took place at Esquimalt on Sept. 2nd. It was not until November, 1900, that the Rifle uniforms were received and issued and the old Artillery tunics and serges returned to Stores.

On the last day in the year the Regiment turned out with the citizens to welcome home those of the First Contingent who were returning from South Africa.

In March, 1901, Major C. C. Bennett was seconded for service in the South African Constabulary.

On the occasion of His Royal Highness the Duke of York's visit the Regiment furnished Guards of honor on September 30th and October 3rd, 1901. His Royal Highness opened the new Drill Hall on Beatty Street, which had just been completed.

In May, 1902, Lieut. C. B. Worsnop received an appointment in the 5th Regiment, C. M. R., and left for South Africa.

In the following month Major-General Sir

Charles Parsons, C.-in-C. Troops in British North America, inspected the 6th Regiment and detachments of native troops from Hong Kong and Singapore on their way to the Coronation ceremonies.

In November Lieut.-Col. C. A. Worsnop, who had commanded the Regiment for his full term, was placed on the Reserve of Officers, and the command devolved upon Major J. C. Whyte.

During Lieut.-Col. Worsnop's tenure of command the local companies had each won the special prizes given by the Governor-General, Lord Lansdowne, to the best Garrison Artillery Company in Canada, and the Regiment had reached a high standard in discipline and efficiency.

Early in 1903 two new Companies, "G" and "H," were added to the Regiment, and the officers at that time were:

Lieut.-Col. J. C. Whyte, in command; Major F. W. Boulton, second in command; Major A. Henderson, Junior Major; Capt. J. Duff Stuart, Adjutant; Surg.-Major A. M. Robertson, Surgeon; Capt. C. Gardiner Johnson, Quartermaster.

The Company Officers were: Capts. J. Reynolds Tite, W. A. Johnson, J. R. Grant, John Boyd, J. S. Tait, C. B. Worsnop, W. Hart-McHarg and Roy Macgowan.

In December of the same year the Regiment was inspected and highly complimented by Lord

Dundonald, General Officer Commanding.

The year 1904 was marked by the winning of His Majesty the King's prize at Bisley, by Pte. S. J. Perry, the first native-born Canadian to win this coveted trophy.

In September, 1905, the Minister of Militia, Sir Frederick Borden, K. C. M. G., in the presence of the Regiment and a large concourse of citizens, unveiled the handsome brass tablet which now adorns the east wall of the Drill Hall. The inscription on this tablet is as follows:

TO THE MEMORY OF THOSE MEMBERS
OF THE
6TH REGIMENT
THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT'S OWN RIFLES
WHO LOST THEIR LIVES
IN THE SERVICE OF THE EMPIRE
IN THE
WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA
1899-1902 :
PRIVATE W. JACKSON
PRIVATE W. F. WHITLEY
BOTH OF THE 2ND ROYAL CANADIAN REGIMENT
TROOPER E. C. A. MACKINTOSH
STRATHCONA HORSE

ERECTED BY THE REGIMENT AND THE
CITIZENS OF VANCOUVER

During the present year the Regiment had an interesting visit from His Royal Highness Prince Arthur of Connaught. A Guard of Honor was furnished and met His Royal Highness at the wharf.

In the afternoon the Regiment was inspected, and His Royal Highness expressed his great pleasure at the opportunity afforded him of meeting and inspecting the Regiment of which his father was honorary Colonel—a Regiment in which, he said, the Duke of Connaught took the very greatest interest.

An historical record of the Regiment, however short, would not be complete without some mention of the high state of efficiency attained in rifle shooting. The winning of the King's prize is naturally the greatest mark of distinction yet achieved, but a record has been established apart from this, possessed by few, if any, other Regiments in Canada. For many years past the Regiment has supplied its quota to the team sent to Ottawa, and in regimental team matches at Rockliffe has won more than its share of events. In matches like the London Merchants, for teams representing the different Provinces, the 6th Regiment has been well represented.

During the past four years the B. C. team has twice won the London Merchants' Challenge Cup,

and on the other occasions took second place.

The 6th Regiment had the distinction of being the first Regiment in Canada to win the Gordon Highlanders' Musketry Trophy, a challenge trophy presented by the 1st Battalion Gordon Highlanders to commemorate their comradeship with the Royal Canadian Regiment and other Canadian Corps in South Africa.

Of late years the Regiment has always had representatives on the Bisley team, in some years there being as many as three or four out of the twenty sent to represent Canada. This standard is still being maintained, and there will be three men on next year's team.

In 1905, Capt. W. H. Forrest and Capt. J. Duff Stuart, both shot on the Canadian team which won the Kolapore Cups, and were the recipients of gold medals presented by the Dominion Government.

A pleasing and interesting phase connected

with the development of rifle shooting is the Annual International Competition which has been arranged with the 2nd Regiment National Guard of Washington. Each team has won one contest.

Col. Denny, an Imperial Officer who was for a short time connected with the Canadian Militia as Chief Intelligence Officer, was on Lord Dundonald's staff when the latter inspected the Regiment two years ago. Colonel Denny recently wrote a special article on the Canadian Militia for an English magazine, in which he stated that the 6th Regiment "The Duke of Connaught's Own Rifles" was one of the smartest regiments he had seen in Canada.

The object of all connected with the Regiment is to maintain and improve its smartness and efficiency, so that if at any time its services are needed by the Country in the stern abitrament of war, it will do honor to itself and the name it bears, and live up to the motto on its coat of arms: "*Celer et Fortis.*"



Officers of the 6th Regiment The Duke of Connaught's Own Rifles

January, 1907

Lieut.-Colonel J. C. WHYTE, *Commanding*

Major F. W. BOULTBEE

Major C. GARDINER JOHNSON, *Quartermaster*

Major A. HENDERSON

Capt. J. DUFF STUART, *Adjutant*

Surgeon-Lieut. F. C. MCTAVISH

Capt. W. H. FORREST, *Paymaster*

Capt. Rev. C. C. OWEN, *Chaplain*

Capt. J. REYNOLDS TITE

Capt. W. A. JOHNSON

Capt. J. S. TAIT

Capt. C. B. WORSNOP

Capt. W. HART-MCHARG

Capt. H. DEW. KING

Capt. J. H. D. HULME

Lieut. H. C. AKROYD

Lieut. D. C. TUCK

Lieut. W. J. CORBETT

Lieut. H. A. WILSON

Lieut. J. G. GAMON

Lieut. V. W. ODLUM

Lieut. J. H. MACGILL

Lieut. E. L. WEBBER

Lieut. A. J. LEAMY

Lieut. W. D. S. RORISON

Lieut. G. A. BOULT

Lieut. T. JENKINS

Lieut. A. ROWAN

Lieut. J. SCLATER

Lieut. G. B. CORBOULD

Lieut. C. MILNE

Lieut. T. CUNNINGHAM

Lieut. W. G. MORRISON

Lieut. A. GRAHAM

Lieut. F. W. ASTON

Lieut. P. M. FERRIS

Corps Reserve, Capt. R. MACGOWAN



MAJOR A. HENDERSON



MAJOR F. W. BOULTBEE
SECOND-IN-COMMAND



MAJOR C. GARDINER JOHNSON
QUARTERMASTER



CAPT. J. DUFF STUART, ADJUTANT



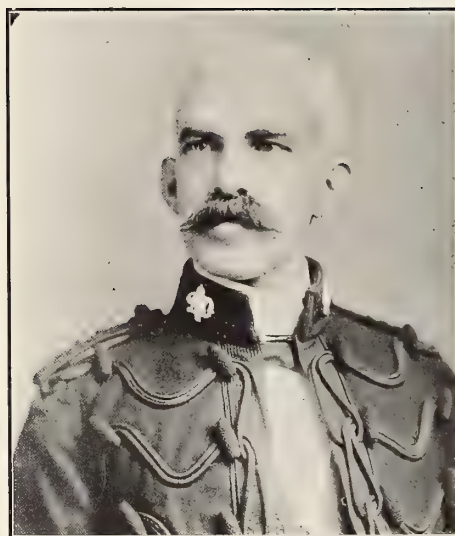
CAPT. W. H. FORREST, PAYMASTER



LIEUT. F. C. MCTAVISH, SURGEON



CAPT. C. C. OWEN, CHAPLAIN



CAPT. J. REYNOLDS TITE



LIEUT. ROWLAND BRITTAIN,
CORPS OF GUIDES



LIEUT. D. de C. HUTCHINSON,
90TH REGIMENT (ATTACHED)



OFFICERS' MESS AND TROPHIES



CAPTAIN J. S. TAIT



CAPT. C. B. WORSNOP



CAPT. W. HART-McHARG



CAPT. J. H. D. HULME



CAPT. W. A. JOHNSON



COLONEL J. G. HOLMES, D. O. C., AND GROUP OF OFFICERS
(HEADQUARTERS COMPANIES AND STAFF, 1903)



LIEUT. W. J. CORBETT



LIEUT. J. G. GAMON



LIEUT. H. C. AKROYD



LIEUT. J. H. MACGILL



LIEUT. A. J. LEAMY



FIRST SOUTH AFRICAN CONTINGENT (HEADQUARTERS COMPANIES)



LIEUT. E. L. WEBBER



LIEUT. W. D. S. RORISON



LIEUT. C. MILNE



LIEUT. T. JENKINS



LIEUT. JAS. SCLATER



NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS, 1894



LIEUT. G. A. BOULT



LIEUT. A. ROWAN



LIEUT. G. B. CORBOULD



LIEUT. T. CUNNINGHAM



LIEUT. A. GRAHAM



LIEUT. P. M. FERRIS



SERGEANT S. J. PERRY, G. M., KING'S PRIZEMAN, 1904



LIEUT. D. C. TUCK



LIEUT. H. A. WILSON



LIEUT. F. W. ASTON



LIEUT. W. G. MORRISON



QUARTERMASTER-SERG. F. KENNEDY



F. T. HIGHFIELD, W.O., BANDMASTER



GROUP OF SERGEANTS, 2ND BATTALION 5TH REGIMENT C. A., 1899



SERGEANTS' MESS (HEADQUARTERS COMPANIES)



MAJOR T. O. TOWNLEY



LIEUT.-COL. C. A. WORSNOP



SURGEON-MAJOR A. M. ROBERTSON



MAJOR C. C. BENNETT



CAPT. W. NORMAN BOLE



CAPT. J. F. GARDEN,
LATE QUARTERMASTER

FORMER OFFICERS



SERGEANTS, "A" AND "B" COMPANIES



"A" COMPANY



"B" COMPANY



"C" COMPANY



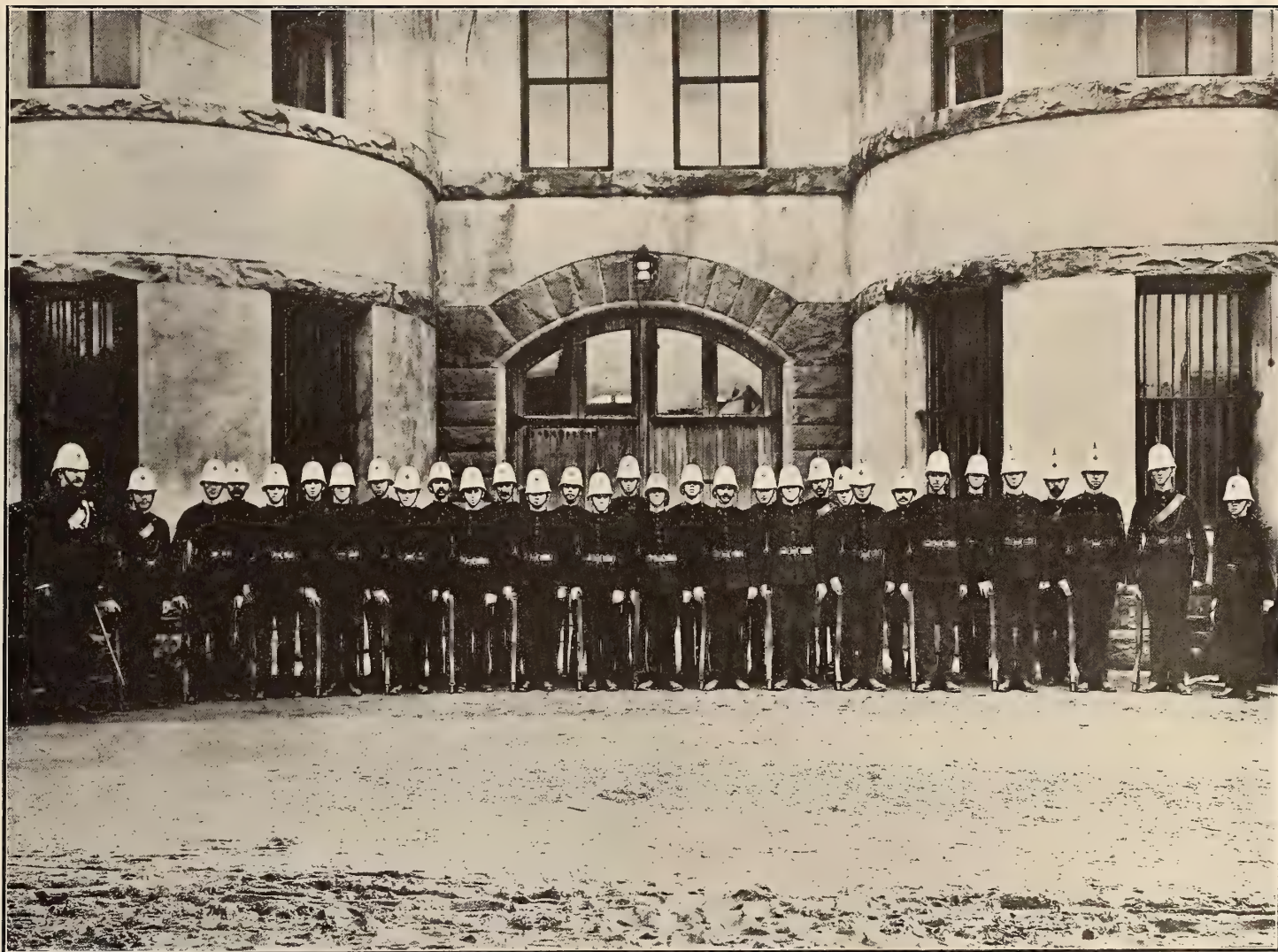
"D" COMPANY



"E" COMPANY



"F" COMPANY



"G" COMPANY



"H" COMPANY



WINNING TEAM, 6TH REGIMENT D. C. O. R., "THE GORDON HIGHLANDERS' TROPHY,"
D. R. A. MEETING, OTTAWA, 1903



WINNING TEAM, 6TH REGIMENT D. C. O. R., INTERNATIONAL RIFLE MATCH, 1905



MAXIM GUN DETACHMENT



ARMOURIES, NEW WESTMINSTER

PURCHASED.....May 1942.....
FROM.....Dorob.....
PLACE OF PURCHASE.....Banarua.....
PRICE.....Exch.....

